



### Officials

**President** Mark Bishop  
**Past Presidents** Chris Tarrant, Robin Wilson  
**Vice-Presidents** Julia Ascott, Gillian Bartle,  
John Bartle, Alan Bishop, Ian Brown, Alan Collins, Julia Gibbs  
Di Jones, Warwick Jones, Peter Stockwell, Andy Thompson  
Martin Tyrrell, Anna Warnock, Colin Warnock

### Current Committee

**Chairman** Alex Greenslade  
**Secretary** Di Jones  
**Treasurer** Alan Bishop  
**Additional Members** Julia Ascott, Julia Gibbs,  
Jamie Heath, Charles Marriott, Vicky Watkins

### Additional Contacts

**Theatre Club Organiser** Colin Warnock  
**Membership Secretary** Julia Ascott  
**Box Office Number** 07914 763422

The Mitre Players is the dramatic society of the Old Boys of Trinity School (The Trinity Mid Whitgiftian Association). We are a very friendly and sociable society, presenting 3 or 4 productions a year in a wide variety of venues. Putting on a show not only requires people on stage, but also involves a great deal of hard work behind the scenes. We design, build and paint our own sets, find and make our own props, make many of our own costumes and use "in house" musicians whenever possible.

We would welcome any new members, so if you have any aspirations to act, sing, dance or play a musical instrument, we would like to hear from you. If you prefer to

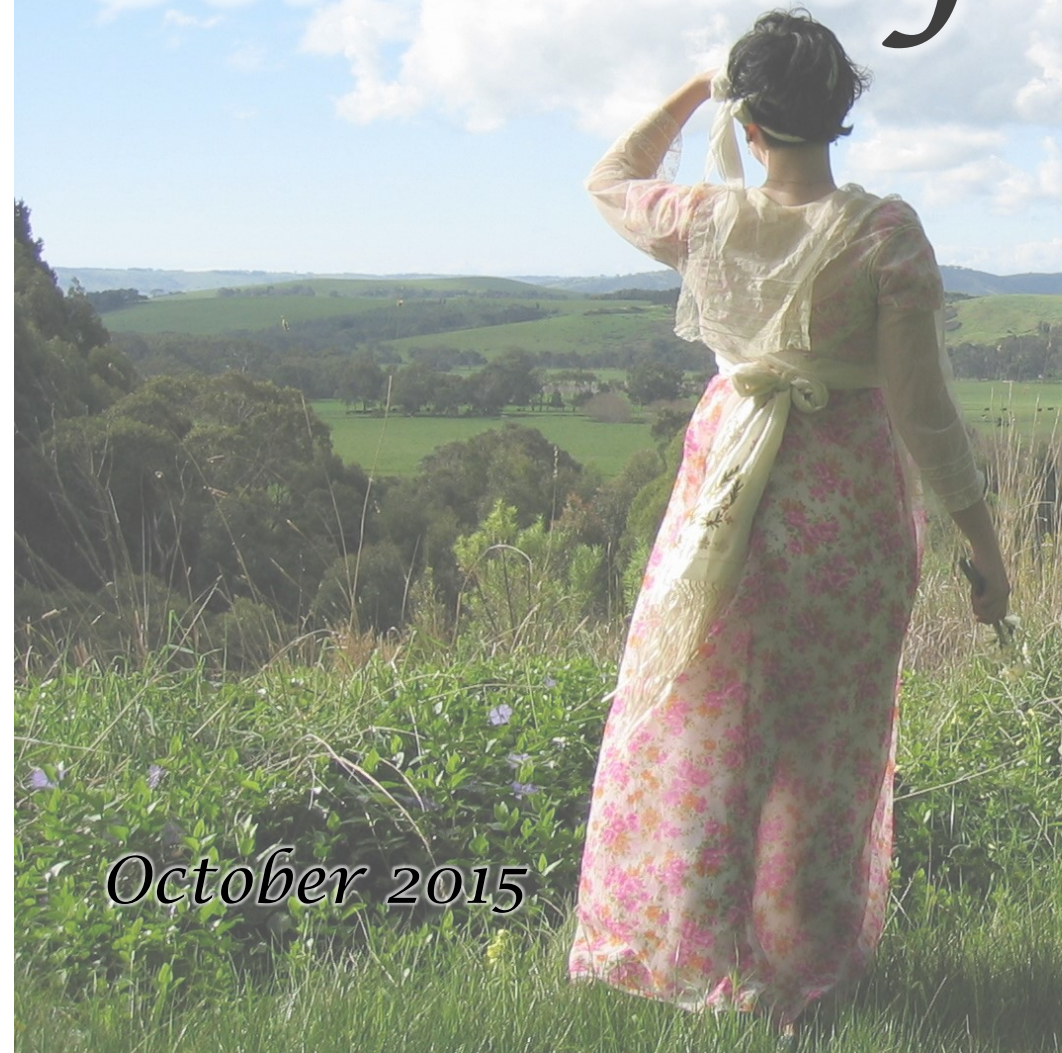
remain out of the spotlight, building scenery, lighting, painting, making costumes, making props, doing 'Front of House' or simply would like to make tea for the team, we would still like to hear from you.

Most of our rehearsals take place at the TMWA Clubhouse in Sanderstead. The bar facilities at the clubhouse lend a social and convivial atmosphere to our rehearsals and all members are encouraged to use the facilities at Sanderstead as often as possible.

If you would like more information, please contact our Membership Secretary: Julia Ascott on: 020 8239 1010 or visit our website at [www.mitreplayers.org.uk](http://www.mitreplayers.org.uk)

# *The Mitre Players*

# *Sense and Sensibility*



*October 2015*

## Chairman's Letter

Following another successful tour to Dawlish with our production of *Dick Barton, Special Agent*, the Mitres now turn their hands to something completely different in the form of the dramatisation of Jane Austen's first published novel. There is something of a coincidence here, as at one point, Mrs Dashwood moves to Barton Cottage in Devon. This is probably where the similarities end!

However, this production also enables us to show off our versatility, both off stage and on. We welcome back to the director's chair Mitre stalwart Di Jones, as well as many of the regular faces familiar to our audiences.

Di's attention to detail and the Mitres' desire to deliver an impressive show mean that you are in for a treat. Even if we sell every seat for every performance, we will make a loss, but we can just about afford it and are willing to do this because we will not compromise our standards.

We are grateful to the headmaster of Trinity School, Mark Bishop, for continuing to allow us to perform in this space. The Mitre Theatre is a comfortable and well-equipped venue and we are privileged to have access to it.

Thank you for supporting us by attending this performance. Without doubt, putting on shows and attracting audiences is becoming harder and harder, but we are persistent and have some interesting shows in the pipeline, including the exciting new musical *The Clockmaker's Daughter*, which we will be taking to the open air Minack Theatre in Cornwall next summer. We are always on the lookout for enthusiastic new members, whether they wish to tread the boards or help out in any of the many other roles available.

I hope you enjoy this evening's show.

**Alex Greenslade**

Chairman, The Mitre Players

### The Mitre Players would like to thank:

The Headmaster and Governors of Trinity School for allowing us to perform in The Mitre Theatre; Robin McKinley, Mario Sammut, Dean Sammut, Phil Jupp, Jeremy Covell and all the Staff at Trinity School

Ian Walsh and everyone at the TMWA/TSSSC for their patience during our rehearsal period.

### Tonia Porter (Mrs Palmer)

Tonia isn't taking her clothes off as she did this time three years ago for Mitres in *Calendar Girls*, instead she is dressed in the lovely 'A line' period costume, which kindly hides a multitude of doodilies and furkins! The last time she was in the Mitre Theatre was earlier this year when she choreographed the *City of Angels* alongside Helen Harries-Rees, her 'mother' now in this piece, with Helen's real daughter Megan, also in the show, playing the wonderful Marianne. 'Tis a lovely piece, enjoy!

### Tamsin Reeve (Elinor Dashwood)

Having played a number of lovestruck heroines from Lydia Languish to Gwendolen Fairfax, Tamsin is delighted to be embodying someone with a little more sense. Perhaps she is finally growing up! Rehearsals have been a hysterical mix of crabs, woodcocks, winkles and buns. Who knew Austen was such a fan of all things ... gastronomic (!)?



### Eve Simpson (Miss Grey, Servant, Gossip)

Eve has performed in a number of Mitre shows, including *A Slice of Saturday Night* and *Calendar Girls*. She's happy to be wearing substantially more clothing than the latter, and is looking forward to showing her nasty side in this production. She hopes you enjoy the show!



**Jane Kortlandt (Lucy Steele)**

In recent weeks, and in the pursuance of perfect method acting, Jane has been working on her part by skulking in the shadows and appearing unexpectedly as often as possible. Apart from the two arrests, this has caused many near accidents on the roads around Beckenham and Jane would like to apologise for the 'great coffee burn incident' last week, which very nearly made the local and national press. This is very different from Jane's last role as Marta Heartburn in *Dick Barton, Special Agent*, where she entered every scene as loudly as possible. Other Mitre credits include Cora in *Calendar Girls* and Mrs Hudson in *Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Carol*.

**Fraser Macdonald (Doctor Harris)**

Fresh from playing a psychopathic, corrupt South American cop in *City of Angels*, Fraser now finds himself in the role of the family doctor in *Sense and Sensibility*. Clearly without either sense or sensibility, he tries to conceal his real bedside manner so as not to invite comparison with *Doc Martin*. Keep taking the tablets!

**Neil O'Gorman (Colonel Brandon)**

Neil has been moping forlornly around the Mitre Players for over twenty years. It's all so heart-breakingly sad and romantic. He had fun at the Minack theatre in Cornwall last year in *Spamalot*.....but that was short lived. Now he spends the long hours staring wistfully out to sea; contemplating on the futility of existence, and wondering where all his hair went. In his spare time, he enjoys embroidery, hiding in cupboards and washing up.

The Mitre Players Present  
Jane Austen's  
*Sense and Sensibility*

Adapted by Jessica Swale

Directed by Di Jones

The Mitre Theatre  
Trinity School, Croydon

22nd to 24th October 2015

Please note: smoking (including electronic cigarettes) is prohibited throughout the school and grounds.

We would also respectfully remind you that the taking of photographs and the use of audio and video recording equipment is strictly forbidden. Please remember to switch off all mobile phones. Thank you for your co-operation.

An amateur production, by arrangement with Samuel French Ltd.

Trinity  
Mid-Whitgiftian  
Association

presents



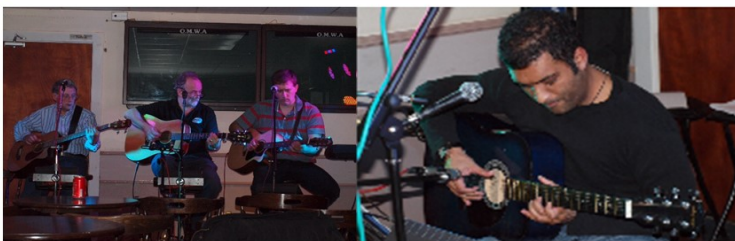
# Lime Meadow Acoustic Folk & Blues Club

## KEEP MUSIC LIVE

- Wednesday fortnightly
- 8.30 to 11pm
- Licensed bar from 7pm
- Free entry & parking

TMWA Clubhouse  
Lime Meadow Avenue  
Sanderstead  
South CROYDON  
CR2 9AS

020 8657 2014



Are you a competent acoustic guitarist, pianist, singer or other, who would like to play in front of other like-minded people, in a friendly atmosphere or just someone who enjoys listening to music? If you are, come along.

Don't be put off by the heading of "Folk & Blues" as, in common with many other "Folk & Blues clubs", the music can be an eclectic mix of other genres.

A PA is available, with microphones, monitors and instrument connections, but kept at a volume level that is comfortable for all to enjoy.

**"Fruit of the Loom" Outdoor Fleece Jacket in Smoke with Embroidered Mitre Players Logo. As modelled by Julia Gibbs**  
100% polyester. Pill resistant. Unlined. Two zip pockets. Self colour zip. Cover stitching detail on hem and shoulder seams. Open hem with drawcord.

**£20.00 each** Sizes available: *(others available on special order)*  
S to fit chest 35/37 M to fit chest 38/40  
L to fit chest 41/43 XL to fit chest 44/46

**"Anvil Fashion" Full Zip Hooded Sweatshirt in Sport Grey with embroidered Mitre Players Logo**  
75% cotton/25% polyester. Unlined hood with white drawcords. White taped back neck. Two inch rolled forward shoulder. Full length metallic YKK zip. Twin needle topstitch at neck. 1x1 rib knit with spandex at cuffs and waistband.

**£20.00 each** Sizes available: *(others available on special order)*  
S to fit chest 34/36 M to fit chest 38/40  
L to fit chest 42/44 XL to fit chest 46/48



Both items are available to purchase from members of the committee or by order from: [info@mitreplayers.org.uk](mailto:info@mitreplayers.org.uk).

## Jamie Heath (Mr Willoughby)

Jamie has found acting with the Mitre Players to be an interesting experience over the past year. Firstly playing a downtrodden Dr Watson last December, then in August an illiterate Scot (in a kilt of course!) with nice knees and an inability to tap dance. And now he's found himself playing an infamous Jane Austen 'cad'. A role that this self-proclaimed comedian never thought he would play, though he could never turn down the chance to act like a knight and romance women whilst sweeping them off their feet! The real challenge of the part however may be trying to fit into the tight trousers!



## Andy Holton (Mr Perks)

Andy is very lucky to be in this play as he has neither Sense nor Sensibility. He is always happy to be 'in service', but watch out because the last time he played the butler he turned out to be the murderer! He is really looking forward to being back in the Mitre Theatre.

## Warwick Jones (Sir John Middleton)

Sir John is such an exhausting part to play that Warwick has most of the second act off. This allows him to 'double up' with some very clever make up; guess who else he is playing and two tickets are yours for the Minack show! He says it is always a pleasure to be directed by his wife, which is just as well as he has had 30 years of it.

### Robert Critchett (Robert Ferrars, Thomas)

This must be a record. After a ten-year gap, this is Robert's third Mitre production in a row. He must have been bitten by the bug. Having realised he had missed the auditions, he was nevertheless pleased to help out by filling various roles, including his namesake. Any other roles will be seriously considered!

### Julia Gibbs (Fanny Dashwood)

Julia is delighted to be playing the rather loathsome Fanny Dashwood in hopefully a lovely costume or two. A far cry from standard issue chain mail as 'Sir Bob' in *Spamalot* and brothel owner Margie in *City of Angels*, Julia has often appeared 'married' to Ian Brown but in a contrast to *House and Garden's* Barry and Lindy, it is now Julia's turn to wear the trousers and boss her husband about! *Sense and Sensibility* has been super fun to rehearse and she hopes you enjoy watching tonight.



### Helen Harries-Rees (Mrs Jennings)

Helen has been a Mitre Player on and off for many years both as a director and a performer. She has been lying low for some years in the world of Am-Dram but got back to it when she directed *City of Angels* in February this year. Helen is delighted to be in a production with her daughter Megan but does have some concerns in being cast as the oldest character at Barton Park... and wonders if someone is trying to tell her something! She is hoping that she hasn't lost the acting knack or the ability to remember lines.... after all she is a granny of two now.

## Director's Notes

The challenge of writing the stage version of a novel is condensing the story into a play lasting approximately two and a half hours. Jessica Swale has achieved this with a delightful 'cinematic' adaptation of *Sense and Sensibility*, which tells Jane Austen's story with sensitivity and humour. My challenge has been to mount a production that is episodic but with a continuous flow from location to location. I asked Chris Raper, our designer, to create a set that was multi-functional and easily accessible, so as not to interrupt the storyline. The cinematic treatment, masterminded by Charles Marriott, who has used his experience as a film director to light the scenes, moves the story on seamlessly.



The challenge for the cast has been not only to learn the lines, act and change costumes quickly, but to remember the fourteen locations in Act 1 and eleven in Act 2, and turn up in the right place at the right time whilst moving furniture and props. Simple.



### Di Jones (Director)

Since directing *Calendar Girls*, Di has been busy working backstage and helping with costumes. Her greatest achievement last year was designing and making the transformation dress for The Lady of the Lake in *Spamalot*. She is delighted that so many Mitre Players wanted to join her to present this new version of *Sense and Sensibility*, which has been great fun despite the gruelling schedule. She also wishes to thank the hard working backstage team for their contribution to this production.

## Patrons of The Mitre Players

Lesley Bates, Kate Benstead, Katherine Bottomley, Laura Brand, Chrissy Bright, Berry Butler, Chris Chambers, Nicky Chambers, Barbara Cobbett, Bill Cobbett, Del Cooper, Di Copas, Peter Davis, Diana England, Mark Fleming, Mike Fleming, Anna Frost, Gillian Frost, Geoff Gear, Sue Gear, Enid Ghent, Martin Godber, Morgyn Goff, Michael Hall, Maria Hancock, Andrea Harper, Jackie Harris, Tracy Jeal, Nigel Kemp, Don Lloyd, Jane Maisey, Darrielle Mayhead, Ian Mcleod, Hannah Milsted, Jo Morrison, Alison Naish, Andrew Naish, Clare Parsons, Grace Parsons, Ray Payne, Liz Raishbrook, Aileen Regan, Trevor Rowlan, Rosemary Saw, Alan Sexton, Heather Sexton, Kate Sheehan, Marion Steele, Mary Street, Michael Street, Niccola Swan, Jenny Vereycken, Barry Widger, Geoff Wilsher

If you would like to become a Patron of The Mitre Players please log on to: [www.mitreplayers.org.uk](http://www.mitreplayers.org.uk) and go to the "join us" page.

## OUR SPRING PRODUCTION

# Shakers AND Movers

BY JOHN GODBER

A MITRE PLAYERS ONE ACT REVUE

MOVERS - Deadline for submissions: Sunday 1st November ([charles.marriott@mitreplayers.org.uk](mailto:charles.marriott@mitreplayers.org.uk))

SHAKERS - Read Through: Monday 9th November @7.45pm

SHAKERS - Auditions: Monday 16th November @7.45pm

SHAKERS AND MOVERS Production Week: Week ending Saturday 27th Feb. 2016  
at: [The Clubhouse, Lime Meadow Avenue, Sanderstead. Croydon. CR2 9AS](#)

## Paul Bowles (Edward Ferrars)

Excluding the character of Sir Not Appearing in This Show in the Mitre Players' production of *Spamalot*, this will be Paul's first appearance since the Mitre Players' production of *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest*. We hope that the relationship to Jane Austen's Elinor concludes slightly better than Ken Kesey's Nurse Ratched. Coincidentally, both characters played by Tamsin Reeve.

## Ian Brown (John Dashwood, Mr Palmer)

In his long amateur drama career, Ian has had many wives, but has never been henpecked by two in the same play! He's been married to Julia Gibbs at least once before - in fact they still call each other by their last married names, Barry and Lindy, but this is the first time he's been married to Tonia Porter. He'll wait until the end of the run before deciding which one to keep ...



## Megan Brown (Marianne Dashwood)

Megan is delighted to be back on stage after taking a couple of years out to get married and look after her two beautiful children, Barnaby and Millie. She was last seen playing a wise man in *Flint Street Nativity*, and she can't help but think that she is more suited to playing a seven year old child than a graceful, elegant young lady. Having been a Mitre since the age of eight weeks, she has had to play opposite a range of men onstage, and she couldn't help but giggle when she learned that in this story, she would end up marrying 'uncle' Neil O'Gorman. Megan's husband, Andrew is her understudy for this evening and probably knows all the lines better than most of the cast after several evenings of testing her. Megan may seem convincing as a true 'lady' onstage, but, if you're buying, it's still a pint of lager and a packet of crisps after the show!!

## Our Summer 2016 Musical

# THE CLOCKMAKER'S DAUGHTER

Croydon Courtyard Theatre, Croydon High School: 13th to 16th July 2016  
The Minack Theatre, Porthcurno, Penzance: 15th to 19th August 2016

### Julia Ascott (Mrs Dashwood)

Julia has been a Mitre for over 40 years and started in the children's chorus, aged 11. She progressed onto juve lead, wicked queens or witches, leading ladies and now finds herself playing character parts or old people! As one of three sisters herself, she has enjoyed watching her three daughters, Elinor, Marianne & Margaret develop. She remembers Megan (Marianne) being born and this is the second time she has played her Mum. Learning lines though has definitely got harder with age, so she is delighted to be directing again next year after a six year break, when she will be at the helm of the Minack production *The Clockmaker's Daughter*.

### Christopher Backway (Servant, Gossip, Ball Guest)

Christopher has been a member of The Mitre Players since he was very young. He is a 17 year old who is getting back to performing in many upcoming shows for the Mitre Players after some years absence. He was very intrigued by the play, *Sense and Sensibility*, and decided to be a part of it. He is very proud of his brother James who is currently playing the lead role in *War Horse* (National Theatre production) and hopes to follow the same road so that one day he can be in James' shoes.



### Anastasia Basharine-Freshville (Margaret Dashwood)

Anastasia began singing and dancing at the age of three and later went on to write and perform her own songs. She now adds acting to her artistic portfolio, with her debut role as Margaret. Margaret hopes to become a naturalist when she grows up, which isn't too far removed from Anastasia's day job as a physicist.

## Jane Austen

It is hard to believe that Jane Austen died only six years after her first novel was published. She first wrote *Elinor and Marianne* in 1795, which she later revised and retitled *Sense and Sensibility*. It wasn't accepted for publication, however, until 1810 and finally published in 1811. A second edition was published, alongside *Pride and Prejudice*, in 1813.

Jane first started writing short stories in 1787 continuing until she wrote her first novel, *Lady Susan* in 1794. She completed it in 1805 but it was rejected by a publisher. Following *Sense and Sensibility* and *Pride and Prejudice* Jane continued to write and publish *Mansfield Park* (1814) and *Emma* (1815) until her death in 1817. *Northanger Abbey* and *Persuasion* were published together posthumously in 1818 with a "Biographical Notice" written by her brother Henry, which, for the first time describes Jane as the author of all the novels.



Born in Steventon, Hampshire in 1775, she lived her entire life as part of a close-knit family located on the lower fringes of the English landed gentry. She was educated primarily by her father and older brothers as well as through her own reading. The steadfast support of her family was critical to her development as a professional writer. Her plots, though fundamentally comic, highlight the dependence of women on marriage to secure social standing and economic security. Her works, though usually popular, were first published anonymously and brought her little personal fame and only a few positive reviews during her lifetime. But the publication in 1869 of her nephew's *A Memoir of Jane Austen* introduced her to a wider public, and by the 1940s she had become widely accepted in academia as a great English writer.

Want to stay up to date with all our news? Want to know when our next social is? Want to know how you can get involved in our shows? Well, we have three options for you:

- Visit our website [www.mitreplayers.org.uk](http://www.mitreplayers.org.uk)
- Like us on Facebook by searching "The Mitre Players"
- Follow us on Twitter @MitrePlayers

As well as our online presence we also publish a regular newsletter which is sent to all members and patrons - this announces shows and auditions before they appear anywhere else!



## The Cast

Elinor Dashwood Tamsin Reeve  
Marianne Dashwood Megan Brown  
Margaret Dashwood Anastasia Basharine-Freshville  
Lucy Steele Jane Kortlandt  
Fanny Dashwood Julia Gibbs  
Mrs Jennings Helen Harries-Rees  
Mrs Dashwood Julia Ascott  
Mrs Palmer Tonia Porter  
Miss Grey Eve Simpson  
Edward Ferrars Paul Bowles  
Robert Ferrars Robert Critchett  
Mr Palmer Ian Brown  
Colonel Brandon Neil O’Gorman  
Mr Willoughby Jamie Heath  
Sir John Middleton Warwick Jones  
John Dashwood Ian Brown  
Thomas Robert Critchett  
Mr Perks Andy Holton  
Doctor Harris Fraser Macdonald  
Servant, Gossip, Ball Guest Christopher Backway  
Other Servants and Guests at the Ball Members of the Cast

## Behind the Scenes

**Director**  
Di Jones

**Designer**  
Chris Raper

**Stage Manager**  
Alan Collins

**Lighting Designer**  
Charles Marriott

**Sound**  
James Mcleod

**Costumes**  
Anna Warnock

**Assisted by**  
Liz Armitage  
Liz Dolman

**Props**  
Sue Long

**Scenic Artist**  
Paul Adams

**Movement Co-ordinator**  
Jean Sayers

**Wigs**  
Morven Rae

**Piano Played by**  
Colin Warnock

**Backstage Assistance**  
Alan Bishop  
Mary Holton  
Di Jones  
Derek Lee  
Julian Parsons  
Dave Price  
Andrew Thompson  
Michael Trakas  
Denver Watkins  
Vicky Watkins  
James Willmington

**Press Liaison**  
Lesley Bates

**Programme Photographs**  
Charles Marriott

**Production Photographs**  
Marcus Ascott

**Programme**  
Alan Bishop  
Anna Warnock

**Production Manager**  
Vicky Watkins

**Box Office Manager**  
Krissi Perry

**Front of House and Refreshments**  
Alex Greenslade  
and members of The Mitre Players